



## Volunteers helping to complete lower hylebos marsh

### ***Recent Volunteer Events Bring Revegetation Project Close To Completion***

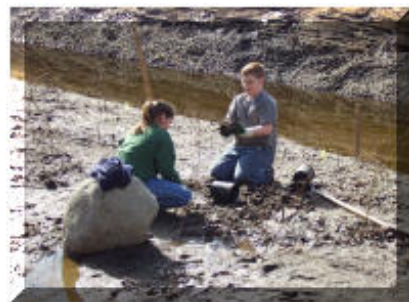
*(Click on any picture to get a full sized photo)*



Fife, WA – March 7, 2006 – Two recent volunteer events at the Lower Hylebos Marsh Restoration Project in Fife, have completed the second of three phases of an ambitious revegetation project near the mouth of Hylebos Creek. On February 18<sup>th</sup> and March 4<sup>th</sup>, Friends of the Hylebos Wetlands' volunteers planted approximately 350 native plants at the site, a former log sorting yard that is being restored for

salmon and wildlife habitat by the Natural Resources Damages Assessments Trustees.

"This is one of the largest, and one of the most exciting habitat restoration projects currently being built on Hylebos Creek," said Friends of the Hylebos Wetlands' Executive Director Chris Carrel. "It's rewarding to see volunteers from the community have an opportunity to participate in a restoration project of this scope."



Since revegetation began in December 2005, 39 volunteers have worked at the site, planting over 700 native plants. Professional restoration crews hired by the Friends have planted an additional 14,000 plants at the site during this time. Washington Conservation Corps crews, provided by the city of Tacoma, have also contributed to the planting project. When planting is complete in May of this year, over 20,000 native trees, shrubs, and wetland plants will have been planted by volunteers and restoration crews.

The Revegetation of the Lower Hylebos Marsh will include one additional volunteer work day, on Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006. Volunteers interested in participating should contact

Hillary KleeB, Hylebos Stream Team Coordinator at 253.929.1519.

Prior to revegetation, the Trustees (NOAA, USFWS, The Puyallup Tribe of Indians, The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the State of Washington, Department of Ecology, Natural Resources and Fish and Wildlife) purchased, designed and constructed the habitat site. Work at the site included excavating over 30,000 cubic yards of material, sculpting the site and removing nonnative vegetation, creating nearly 5 acres of off-channel habitat for Hylebos Creek's native salmon



[Home](#)

[West Hylebos Wetlands](#)

[Hylebos Watershed](#)

[Who We Are](#)

[Hylebos Stream Team](#)

[Habitat Acquisition](#)

[Habitat Restoration](#)

[Flora of the Hylebos](#)

[Fauna of the Hylebos](#)

[Highway 167 Project](#)

[Get Involved](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[News/Publications](#)

[Links](#)

[Contact Us](#)

and other wildlife.



The property was purchased for \$600,000 by the Trustees and a grant from the Pierce County Conservation Futures Program. Project design and construction was completed by NOAA under contract to Ridolfi Inc and Remtech at a cost of approximately \$1 million. Funding for the project resulted from a settlement agreement between the Trustees and the Port of Tacoma. The property is owned by the City of Fife and will be open as a nature preserve with a walking trail following completion of the restoration phase.

Friends of the Hylebos Wetlands is a nonprofit conservation organization working to protect and restore the environmental quality of Hylebos Creek, the West Hylebos Wetlands and the surrounding watershed. More information about the Friends and volunteer opportunities can be found at the group's website [www.hylebos.org](http://www.hylebos.org), or by calling 253.929.1519.

